



# Australian Bureau of Statistics

## **6291.0.55.001 - Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery, Jan 2016**

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## **Summary**

### **Main Features**

Data from the monthly Labour Force Survey are released in two stages. The Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) and Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003) are part of the second release, and include detailed data not contained in the Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) product set, which is released one week earlier.

The Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) is released monthly. Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003) includes data only collected in February, May, August and November (including industry and occupation).

Since these products are based on the same data as the Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) publication, the 6202.0 Labour Force, Australia Explanatory Notes are relevant to both releases.

## **What's New in the Labour Force**

### **WHAT'S NEW IN THE LABOUR FORCE**

#### **REGULAR UPDATE OF THE SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT PROCESS**

Parameters used in the seasonal adjustment process to account for the following variables:

- the placement of public holidays;
- the placement of school holidays; and
- the start date for data collection in January

were updated in the January 2016 issue of Labour Force, Australia.

The parameters are reviewed at this time each year to ensure that the correct timing of the holidays and start date for collection are reflected in seasonally adjusted and trend data. These parameters are updated separately to the annual seasonal reanalysis because of their importance for January data, however they will also be considered as part of the broader annual seasonal reanalysis of each series scheduled to occur with the February data. The update to the parameters did not result in significant revisions to the seasonally

adjusted and trend series.

## **THE FUTURE DISSEMINATION OF DETAILED LABOUR FORCE DATA**

The ABS has released detailed Labour Force Survey data via SuperTable data cubes for a long period of time. This software is not currently supported by the software provider, Space Time Research, and users have expressed interest in plans regarding the future of these data cubes. The ABS will engage with key users of Labour Force data in 2016 on the most appropriate future dissemination product options and transitional arrangements, and provide periodic updates from this process.

## **NEW SPREADSHEET "INSIGHTS FROM THE ORIGINAL DATA" NOW AVAILABLE**

The January 2016 issue of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) includes an additional spreadsheet table titled *"Insights from the original data"*, which complements the analysis provided in the main commentary. This spreadsheet table contains information regarding the contribution of each component of the sample to original level estimates for the current and previous month, and by extension their contribution to movements in original estimates between months. Information shown in the spreadsheet table is the same as previously provided for employment estimates in the December 2015 issue of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0), and is now presented in a table format and for all labour force statuses (i.e. employed, unemployed and not in the labour force). The data in the spreadsheet table can be replicated using the previous month weighted estimate and comparing it to the current month weighted estimate, both of which are available in data cube GM1. This spreadsheet table will continue to be provided in the same format with each additional issue. For further information regarding the specific calculations contained in the table, refer to the December 2015 issue of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0).

## **PUBLICATION OF QUARTERLY REBENCHMARKED DATA**

From the August 2015 issue the ABS commenced quarterly updating (rebenchmarking) Labour Force population benchmarks with the latest available Estimated Resident Population series. To enable users to assess the impact of the rebenchmarking, the ABS now publishes rebenchmarked Labour Force estimates one week prior to each quarterly (February, May, August and November) release of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0). The rebenchmarked estimates include time series up to the month before the quarterly month.

The rebenchmarked estimates are published under Labour Force, Australia - Rebenchmarked Estimates (cat. no. 6202.0.55.003) and include all spreadsheets and one data cube currently released as part of Labour Force, Australia. The February 2016 issue of the rebenchmarked estimates will be released on 10 March 2016. As the purpose of this release is to enable the effect of revised population benchmarks to be analysed, a media release is not usually provided. Rebenchmarked estimates relating to data published in both Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) and Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003) will continue to be published along with the current month estimates one week after each quarterly release of Labour Force, Australia.

When each quarterly release of Labour Force, Australia is published seasonally adjusted and trend rebenchmarked estimates will be subject to further revision as a result of concurrent seasonal adjustment utilising the additional observation.

# Insights from the Original Data

## INSIGHTS FROM THE ORIGINAL DATA

### SAMPLE COMPOSITION

The Labour Force Survey sample can be thought of as comprising eight sub-samples (or rotation groups), with each sub-sample remaining in the survey for eight months, and one rotation group "rotating out" each month and being replaced by a new group "rotating in". This sample rotation is important in ensuring that seven-eighths of the sample are common from one month to the next, to ensure that changes in the estimates reflect real changes in the labour market, rather than the sample. In addition, the replacement sample is generally selected from the same geographic areas as the outgoing one, as part of a representative sampling approach.

To understand movements in the original estimates, it is important to consider the contributions from the three components of the sample:

- the matched common sample (survey respondents who responded in both December and January),
- the unmatched common sample (respondents in January but who did not respond in December, or vice versa), and
- the incoming rotation group (who replaced respondents who rotated out in December).

The January 2016 issue of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) includes an additional spreadsheet table titled *"Insights from the original data"*. This spreadsheet table contains information regarding the contribution of each component of the sample to the original level estimates for the current and previous month, and by extension their contribution to movements in original estimates between months. Information shown in the spreadsheet table is the same as provided for employment estimates in the December 2015 issue of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0), and is now presented in a table format and for all labour force statuses (i.e. employed, unemployed and not in the labour force). The data in the spreadsheet table can be replicated by comparing the previous month weighted estimate to the current month weighted estimate, both of which are available in data cube GM1. This spreadsheet table will continue to be provided in the same format with each subsequent issue. For further information regarding the specific calculations contained in the table, refer to the December 2015 issue of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0).

The matched common sample made the largest contribution towards the movement in original terms from December 2015 to January 2016 for both employment and not in the labour force estimates, contributing over 70% of the movement in both cases. The contribution from the three sample components was more even for the unemployment estimates, with the matched common sample contributing over 40%, while the unmatched common sample and the change in rotation groups each contributed just under 30%.

In considering the three components of the sample, it is important to remember that the matched common sample describes the change observed for the same respondents between December and January, while the other two components reflect differences

between the aggregate labour force status of different groups of people.

While the rotation groups are designed to be representative of the population, the outgoing and incoming rotation groups will almost always have somewhat different characteristics, as a result of the groups representing a sample of different households and people. The design of the survey, including the weighting and estimation processes, ensures that these differences are generally relatively minor and seeks to ensure that differences in characteristics of rotation groups do not affect the representativeness of the survey and its estimates.

In original terms the rotation group which was new to the sample in January 2016 (the incoming rotation group) displayed less tendency towards employment but a stronger tendency towards participation than the group it replaced (the outgoing rotation group in December), with a higher participation rate (63.5% for the incoming group, compared to 62.9% for the outgoing group) and lower employment to population ratio (58.8% for the incoming group, compared to 59.7% for the outgoing group). A decreased employment to population ratio was observed across all survey rotation groups, with an average decrease of 1.6 percentage points seen for the seven common rotation groups. The incoming rotation group in January 2016 further displayed a stronger tendency towards unemployment than the group it replaced, with the unemployment rate for the incoming group 7.3%, compared to a rate of 5.1% for the outgoing group and the average of all rotation groups of 6.5%. An increased unemployment rate was observed across all survey rotation groups, with an average increase of 0.8 percentage points seen for the seven common rotation groups.

In looking ahead to the February 2016 estimates, the outgoing rotation group in January 2016, which will be replaced by a new incoming rotation group in February 2016, had a similar employment to population ratio (60.1% in January) to other rotation groups. In original terms if the incoming group in February 2016 has an employment to population ratio that is equally similar to the average (60.5% for all rotation groups in January 2016), this rotation group change is unlikely to contribute significantly to employment growth. This will be summarised in the February 2016 issue. The outgoing rotation group in January 2016 also had a relatively high unemployment rate (7.2% in January 2016) compared to the other rotation groups (6.5% for all rotation groups in January 2016). If the incoming group in February 2016 has an unemployment rate that is more similar to the average, or is relatively lower than the average, there may be some degree of contribution to the unemployment rate from this rotation group change.

As the gross flows and rotation group data are presented in original terms they are not directly comparable to the seasonally adjusted and trend data discussed elsewhere in the commentary.

## Article Archive

This section provides an archive of articles and analysis published in Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0), promoting the effective use of labour force statistics. Articles are sorted by publication date.

Articles on labour related topics are also available in Australian Labour Market Statistics (cat. no. 6105.0) and Australian Social Trends (cat. no. 4102.0).

### Labour Force Survey Archive

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| What's New in the Labour Force   | December 2015  |
| Measures of Underemployment and Underutilisation                                   | November 2015  |
| Update on Recommendation 7 from the Independent Technical Review                   | November 2015  |
| What's New in the Labour Force   | November 2015  |
| What's New in the Labour Force   | October 2015   |
| What's New in the Labour Force   | September 2015 |
| Online Collection in the Labour Force Survey                                       | August 2015    |
| What's New in the Labour Force   | July 2015      |
| Progress with recommendations from the Independent Technical Review                | July 2015      |
| Assessing Volatility in the Labour Force Series                                    | June 2015      |
| What's New in the Labour Force   | June 2015      |
| Update on Recommendations 10 and 11 from the Independent Technical Review          | June 2015      |
| What's New in the Labour Force   | May 2015       |
| Update on Recommendation 7 from the Independent Technical Review                   | May 2015       |
| What's New in the Labour Force   | April 2015     |
| What's New in the Labour Force   | March 2015     |
| Annual Seasonal Reanalysis   | March 2015     |
| Update on Recommendations from the Independent Technical Review                    | March 2015     |
| What's new in the Labour Force   | February 2015  |
| Online Collection in the Labour Force Survey                                       | February 2015  |
| Rebenchmarking Labour Force Estimates  | February 2015  |
| What's new in the Labour force   | January 2015   |
| What's new in the Labour force   | December 2014  |
| Independent Technical Review into the Labour Force Survey and ABS Response         | November 2014  |
| What's new in the Labour force   | November 2014  |
| Removing the effect of Supplementary Surveys from seasonally adjusted estimates    | October 2014   |
| Changes in this and upcoming labour force issues                                   | September 2014 |
| Changes in this and upcoming labour force issues                                   | August 2014    |
| What's new in the Labour force   | July 2014      |
| What's new in the Labour force   | June 2014      |
| What's new in the Labour force   | May 2014       |
| What's new in the Labour force   | February 2014  |
| Rebenchmarking Labour Force Estimates to the 2011 Census of Population and Housing | January 2014   |
| What's new in the Labour force   | December 2013  |
| Understanding the Australian Labour Force using ABS statistics                     | December 2013  |
| What's new in the Labour Force   | November 2013  |
| Understanding full-time/part-time status in the Labour Force Survey                | September 2013 |
| What's new in the Labour Force   | September 2013 |
| Fact sheet did you know - Underemployment  | June 2013      |
| What's new in the Labour Force   | June 2013      |
| New Labour Force Sample Design   | May 2013       |
| Annual Seasonal Reanalysis   | May 2013       |
| What's new in Labour Force   | May 2013       |
| Transition to online collection of the Labour Force Survey                         | April 2013     |
| What's new in Labour Force   | April 2013     |
| Estimating Jobs in the Australian Labour Market                                    | February 2013  |

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Forthcoming improvements to the content of the Labour Force and Labour Supplementary Surveys | January 2013  |
| What's new in Labour Force   | January 2013  |
| Understanding the Australian Labour Force using ABS statistics                               | January 2013  |
| Rebenchmarking of Labour Force Series  | November 2012 |
| Upcoming changes to the Labour Force Survey  | July 2012     |
| Labour Household Surveys content review and the Labour Force Survey                          | June 2012     |
| Employment and mining in Queensland, New South Wales and Western Australia                   | May 2012      |
| ABS Response to recent concerns expressed about employment estimates                         | April 2012    |
| Population Benchmarks and Labour Force Survey  | April 2012    |
| Annual Seasonal Reanalysis   | March 2012    |
| Exploring Labour Force Data on joblessness   | February 2012 |
| Employment level estimates versus employment to population explained                         | January 2012  |
| Understanding the Australian Labour Force using ABS statistics                               | November 2011 |
| Historical Revisions   | February 2011 |
| Impact of the floods on the Labour Force Survey  | January 2011  |

## About this Release

A range of Excel spreadsheets and SuperTABLE datacubes. The monthly spreadsheets contain broad level data covering all the major items of the Labour Force Survey in time series format, including seasonally adjusted and trend estimates. The monthly datacubes contain more detailed and cross classified original data than the spreadsheets.

## Explanatory Notes

### Explanatory Notes

Data from the monthly Labour Force Survey are released in two stages. The Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) and Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003) are part of the second release, and include detailed data not contained in the Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) product set, which is released one week earlier.

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## **Time Series Spreadsheet (I-Note) - Time Series Spreadsheet**

Due to the flooding in Queensland in January 2011, the relative standard errors for January 2011 will vary across regions and will be higher than normal in some regions. The RSEs for the Darling Downs-South West and Ipswich City Statistical Regions are expected to be approximately 50% higher, while the RSEs for the Brisbane City Inner Ring Statistical Region will increase by approximately 25%. The Brisbane City Outer Ring, West Moreton and Mackay-Fitzroy-Central West Statistical Regions will have RSEs approximately 10% higher. All other regions have minimal differences. However from February 2011, the data returns to normal. Refer to the article Impact of the floods on the Labour Force Survey in January 2011 for more information.

The new labour force sample was phased-in over four months from May to August 2013. See the article on page 10 of the May 2013 issue of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) for more information. During phase in of the new sample, standard errors associated with key labour force data were expected to increase by approximately 10% at a national level, however increased standard errors and variability in the estimates may be more evident in detailed regional data during this time

## **Data Cubes (I-Note) - Data Cubes**

Due to the flooding in Queensland in January 2011, the relative standard errors for January 2011 will vary across regions and will be higher than normal in some regions. The RSEs for the Darling Downs-South West and Ipswich City Statistical Regions are expected to be approximately 50% higher, while the RSEs for the Brisbane City Inner Ring Statistical Region will increase by approximately 25%. The Brisbane City Outer Ring, West Moreton and Mackay-Fitzroy-Central West Statistical Regions will have RSEs approximately 10% higher. All other regions have minimal differences. However from February 2011, the data returns to normal. Refer to the article Impact of the floods on the Labour Force Survey in January 2011 for more information.

The new labour force sample was phased-in over four months from May to August 2013. See the article on page 10 of the May 2013 issue of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) for more information. During phase in of the new sample, standard errors associated with key labour force data were expected to increase by approximately 10% at a national level, however increased standard errors and variability in the estimates may be more evident in detailed regional data during this time.

## **Standard Errors**

Estimates from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) are based on information collected from people in a sample of dwellings, rather than the entire population. Hence the estimates produced may differ from those that would have been produced if the entire population had been included in the survey. The most common measure of the likely difference (or

'sampling error') is the **standard error** (SE).

The ABS considers that estimates with a relative standard error of 25% or more may be subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes.

To determine if an item has a relative standard error of 25% or more, in SuperTABLE, right click in the centre of the table, select annotate cells - standard annotations, and select 'Annotate RSE cut-off values'.

To indicate those cells in spreadsheets with a relative standard error of 25% or more, annotations have been applied prior to dissemination.

In addition, the tables below have been supplied to show estimates at which the relative standard error is 25%. Estimates of the size indicated in the tables, or smaller, are considered to be subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes.

Due to the January 2011 flooding in Queensland the relative standard errors for January 2011 will be higher than normal in some regions, therefore for Queensland the estimates at which the relative standard error is 25% will be higher than they appear in the tables below. However from February, the data returns to normal.

The new labour force sample was phased-in over four months from May to August 2013. During phase in of the new sample, standard errors associated with key labour force data were expected to increase by approximately 10% at a national level, however increased standard errors and variability in the estimates may be more evident in detailed regional data during this time.

The RSEs for July 2013 (50% old sample, 50% new sample) and onwards will be subject to revisions in the future, as more information is known about the new sample after it has been introduced.

Additional information on how standard errors for LFS estimates are produced is available in Labour Force Survey Standard Errors, Data Cube (cat. no. 6298.0.55.001).

| State           | NSW | Vic | Qld | SA  | WA  | Tas | NT  | ACT | Aust |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| <b>Employed</b> |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |      |
| Feb-78 — Sep-82 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 4.5  |
| Oct-82 — Aug-87 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 3.0 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 1.3 | 3.5  |
| Sep-87 — Feb-89 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 4.0  |
| Mar-89 — Aug-92 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.0 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 1.3 | 2.0 | 1.4 | 3.5  |
| Sep-92 — Aug-97 | 5.3 | 4.6 | 3.5 | 2.4 | 2.9 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 4.0  |
| Sep-97 — Sep-98 | 5.9 | 4.5 | 4.1 | 2.4 | 2.8 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 4.4  |
| Oct-98 — Feb-03 | 5.9 | 3.1 | 3.7 | 2.5 | 2.2 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 0.9 | 5.5  |
| Mar-03 — Oct-07 | 6.3 | 3.0 | 4.4 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 6.6  |
| Nov-07          | 6.2 | 3.2 | 4.3 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 6.4  |
| Dec-07          | 6.1 | 3.4 | 4.3 | 2.3 | 2.6 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 6.2  |
| Jan-08          | 6.0 | 3.6 | 4.2 | 2.3 | 2.6 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 6.0  |
| Feb-08          | 5.9 | 3.8 | 4.2 | 2.4 | 2.7 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 5.9  |
| Mar-08          | 5.9 | 4.1 | 4.2 | 2.4 | 3.0 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 5.7  |
| Apr-08          | 5.8 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 2.5 | 3.1 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 5.6  |
| May-08          | 5.7 | 4.7 | 4.3 | 2.5 | 3.1 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 5.4  |
| Jun-08          | 5.5 | 4.9 | 4.3 | 2.5 | 3.3 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 5.3  |
| Jul-08 — Aug-09 | 6.9 | 6.1 | 5.3 | 3.1 | 4.0 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.6 | 7.4  |



|                 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sep-09          | 6.5 | 5.8 | 5.0 | 2.9 | 3.8 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 1.5 | 7.0 |
| Oct-09          | 6.1 | 5.5 | 4.7 | 2.8 | 3.6 | 1.4 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 6.5 |
| Nov-09          | 5.8 | 5.2 | 4.5 | 2.6 | 3.4 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 6.2 |
| Dec-09 — Jun-13 | 5.5 | 4.9 | 4.3 | 2.5 | 3.3 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 5.8 |
| Jul-13 — Jan-14 | 7.7 | 3.8 | 5.5 | 2.7 | 3.8 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 1.7 | 7.8 |
| Feb-14 onwards  | 7.9 | 3.9 | 5.6 | 2.7 | 3.8 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 1.7 | 7.9 |

### Unemployed

|                 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Feb-78 — Sep-82 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 4.5 |
| Oct-82 — Aug-87 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 3.0 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 1.3 | 3.5 |
| Sep-87 — Feb-89 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 4.0 |
| Mar-89 — Aug-92 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.0 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 1.3 | 2.0 | 1.4 | 3.5 |
| Sep-92 — Aug-97 | 5.3 | 4.6 | 3.5 | 2.4 | 2.9 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 4.0 |
| Sep-97 — Sep-98 | 5.9 | 4.5 | 4.1 | 2.4 | 2.8 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 4.4 |
| Oct-98 — Feb-03 | 5.7 | 5.7 | 4.5 | 2.6 | 3.3 | 1.3 | 3.2 | 1.4 | 4.9 |
| Mar-03 — Oct-07 | 6.0 | 5.4 | 4.9 | 2.9 | 3.6 | 1.6 | 2.2 | 1.6 | 5.2 |
| Nov-07          | 6.1 | 5.4 | 5.0 | 2.9 | 3.7 | 1.6 | 2.1 | 1.7 | 5.2 |
| Dec-07          | 6.2 | 5.5 | 5.0 | 2.9 | 3.8 | 1.7 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 5.2 |
| Jan-08          | 6.3 | 5.6 | 5.0 | 3.0 | 4.0 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 5.2 |
| Feb-08          | 6.4 | 5.7 | 5.1 | 3.0 | 4.1 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 5.1 |
| Mar-08          | 6.7 | 5.7 | 5.2 | 3.1 | 4.5 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 1.9 | 5.1 |
| Apr-08          | 6.8 | 5.9 | 5.5 | 3.2 | 4.6 | 1.9 | 1.5 | 1.9 | 5.2 |
| May-08          | 6.9 | 6.0 | 5.5 | 3.3 | 4.8 | 1.9 | 1.4 | 2.0 | 5.1 |
| Jun-08          | 7.1 | 6.1 | 5.6 | 3.3 | 5.0 | 1.9 | 1.4 | 2.1 | 5.1 |
| Jul-08 — Aug-09 | 9.3 | 8.0 | 7.4 | 4.4 | 6.6 | 2.5 | 1.8 | 2.8 | 7.3 |
| Sep-09          | 8.7 | 7.5 | 6.8 | 4.1 | 6.1 | 2.4 | 1.6 | 2.5 | 6.8 |
| Oct-09          | 8.1 | 7.0 | 6.4 | 3.8 | 5.7 | 2.2 | 1.5 | 2.4 | 6.4 |
| Nov-09          | 7.5 | 6.5 | 6.0 | 3.5 | 5.3 | 2.1 | 1.5 | 2.2 | 6.0 |
| Dec-09 — Jun-13 | 7.1 | 6.1 | 5.6 | 3.3 | 5.0 | 1.9 | 1.4 | 2.1 | 5.7 |
| Jul-13 — Jan-14 | 7.3 | 6.6 | 8.4 | 3.7 | 5.8 | 1.7 | 1.3 | 2.2 | 7.1 |
| Feb-14 onwards  | 7.4 | 6.7 | 8.6 | 3.8 | 5.9 | 1.8 | 1.3 | 2.3 | 7.3 |

### NILF

|                 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Feb-78 — Sep-82 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 4.5 |
| Oct-82 — Aug-87 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 3.0 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 1.3 | 3.5 |
| Sep-87 — Feb-89 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 4.0 |
| Mar-89 — Aug-92 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.0 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 1.3 | 2.0 | 1.4 | 3.5 |
| Sep-92 — Aug-97 | 5.3 | 4.6 | 3.5 | 2.4 | 2.9 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 4.0 |
| Sep-97 — Sep-98 | 5.9 | 4.5 | 4.1 | 2.4 | 2.8 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 4.4 |
| Oct-98 — Feb-03 | 6.4 | 3.7 | 4.1 | 3.2 | 2.7 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 6.0 |
| Mar-03 — Oct-07 | 7.8 | 3.7 | 5.2 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 1.5 | 2.0 | 1.3 | 7.3 |
| Nov-07          | 7.6 | 3.9 | 5.1 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 1.3 | 7.0 |
| Dec-07          | 7.4 | 4.1 | 5.1 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 1.5 | 1.7 | 1.4 | 6.8 |
| Jan-08          | 7.3 | 4.4 | 5.0 | 3.0 | 3.4 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.4 | 6.6 |
| Feb-08          | 7.1 | 4.7 | 5.0 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 6.3 |
| Mar-08          | 7.1 | 5.0 | 4.9 | 3.1 | 3.8 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 6.2 |
| Apr-08          | 7.0 | 5.4 | 5.3 | 3.2 | 3.9 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 6.0 |
| May-08          | 6.8 | 5.7 | 5.2 | 3.2 | 4.0 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 5.8 |
| Jun-08          | 6.6 | 6.0 | 5.2 | 3.2 | 4.1 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 5.6 |
| Jul-08 — Aug-09 | 8.3 | 7.6 | 6.5 | 4.0 | 5.2 | 1.8 | 1.4 | 2.0 | 8.0 |
| Sep-09          | 7.8 | 7.2 | 6.1 | 3.7 | 4.9 | 1.7 | 1.3 | 1.9 | 7.4 |
| Oct-09          | 7.3 | 6.7 | 5.8 | 3.5 | 4.6 | 1.6 | 1.2 | 1.8 | 6.9 |
| Nov-09          | 6.9 | 6.4 | 5.4 | 3.3 | 4.4 | 1.6 | 1.2 | 1.7 | 6.5 |
| Dec-09 — Jun-13 | 6.6 | 6.0 | 5.2 | 3.2 | 4.1 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 6.2 |
| Jul-13 — Jan-14 | 8.4 | 4.4 | 9.8 | 3.6 | 4.5 | 1.8 | 0.7 | 2.5 | 9.0 |
| Feb-14 onwards  | 8.5 | 4.5 | 9.9 | 3.7 | 4.6 | 1.8 | 0.8 | 2.5 | 9.1 |

| <b>Greater Capital City Statistical Areas</b> | <b>Feb-78<br/>—<br/>Sep-82</b> | <b>Oct-82<br/>—<br/>Aug-87</b> | <b>Sep-87<br/>—<br/>Feb-89</b> | <b>Mar-89<br/>—<br/>Aug-92</b> | <b>Sep-92<br/>—<br/>Aug-97</b> | <b>Sep-97 —<br/>Sep-98</b>     | <b>Oct-98<br/>—<br/>Feb-03</b> |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Greater Sydney                                | 4.5                            | 4.0                            | 4.5                            | 4.5                            | 5.3                            | 5.7                            | 5.8                            |
| Rest of NSW                                   | 4.5                            | 4.0                            | 4.5                            | 4.5                            | 5.3                            | 5.7                            | 5.8                            |
| Greater Melbourne                             | 4.5                            | 4.0                            | 4.5                            | 4.5                            | 4.6                            | 4.6                            | 3.3                            |
| Rest of Victoria                              | 4.5                            | 4.0                            | 4.5                            | 4.5                            | 4.6                            | 4.3                            | 3.2                            |
| Greater Brisbane                              | 3.5                            | 3.0                            | 3.0                            | 3.0                            | 3.5                            | 3.7                            | 3.4                            |
| Rest of Queensland                            | 3.5                            | 3.0                            | 3.0                            | 3.0                            | 3.6                            | 4.3                            | 3.6                            |
| Greater Adelaide                              | 2.5                            | 1.8                            | 2.0                            | 2.1                            | 2.4                            | 2.4                            | 2.7                            |
| Rest of South Australia                       | 2.5                            | 1.8                            | 2.0                            | 2.1                            | 2.5                            | 2.2                            | 2.5                            |
| Greater Perth                                 | 2.5                            | 2.0                            | 2.5                            | 2.3                            | 2.9                            | 2.6                            | 2.3                            |
| Rest of Western Australia                     | 2.5                            | 2.0                            | 2.5                            | 2.3                            | 2.9                            | 2.8                            | 2.2                            |
| Greater Hobart                                | 1.5                            | 1.0                            | 1.3                            | 1.3                            | 1.3                            | 1.1                            | 0.9                            |
| Rest of Tasmania                              | 1.5                            | 1.0                            | 1.3                            | 1.3                            | 1.3                            | 1.1                            | 1.1                            |
|   | <b>Mar-03<br/>—<br/>Feb-08</b> | <b>Mar-08<br/>—<br/>Jun-08</b> | <b>Jul-08 —<br/>Oct-09</b>     | <b>Nov-09<br/>—<br/>Jun-13</b> | <b>Jul-13 —<br/>Jan-14</b>     | <b>Feb-14<br/>onwards</b>      |                                |
| Greater Sydney                                | 6.5                            | 5.7                            | 7.1                            | 5.7                            | 7.6                            | 7.7                            |                                |
| Rest of NSW                                   | 6.4                            | 5.6                            | 7.0                            | 5.6                            | 7.5                            | 7.6                            |                                |
| Greater Melbourne                             | 3.2                            | 5.1                            | 6.4                            | 5.1                            | 4.0                            | 4.0                            |                                |
| Rest of Victoria                              | 3.1                            | 5.0                            | 6.3                            | 5.0                            | 3.9                            | 3.9                            |                                |
| Greater Brisbane                              | 4.1                            | 4.0                            | 5.0                            | 4.0                            | 5.9                            | 6.0                            |                                |
| Rest of Queensland                            | 4.4                            | 4.3                            | 5.4                            | 4.3                            | 6.3                            | 6.4                            |                                |
| Greater Adelaide                              | 2.5                            | 2.7                            | 3.4                            | 2.7                            | 3.0                            | 3.0                            |                                |
| Rest of South Australia                       | 2.4                            | 2.5                            | 3.1                            | 2.5                            | 2.8                            | 2.8                            |                                |
| Greater Perth                                 | 2.6                            | 3.5                            | 4.3                            | 3.5                            | 3.9                            | 4.0                            |                                |
| Rest of Western Australia                     | 2.5                            | 3.3                            | 4.1                            | 3.3                            | 3.7                            | 3.8                            |                                |
| Greater Hobart                                | 1.1                            | 1.1                            | 1.4                            | 1.1                            | 1.3                            | 1.3                            |                                |
| Rest of Tasmania                              | 1.3                            | 1.3                            | 1.6                            | 1.3                            | 1.5                            | 1.5                            |                                |
| <b>Statistical Area Level 4 Regions</b>       | <b>Oct-98<br/>—<br/>Feb-03</b> | <b>Mar-03<br/>—<br/>Feb-08</b> | <b>Mar-08<br/>—<br/>Jun-08</b> | <b>Jul-08<br/>—<br/>Oct-09</b> | <b>Nov-09<br/>—<br/>Jun-13</b> | <b>Jul-13<br/>—<br/>Jan-14</b> | <b>Feb-14<br/>onwards</b>      |
| Central Coast                                 | 7.4                            | 8.5                            | 7.2                            | 9.4                            | 7.2                            | 10.2                           | 10.4                           |
| Sydney - Baulkham Hills and Hawkesbury        | 7.2                            | 8.3                            | 7.0                            | 9.2                            | 7.0                            | 10.0                           | 10.2                           |
| Sydney - Blacktown                            | 7.3                            | 8.3                            | 7.1                            | 9.3                            | 7.1                            | 10.0                           | 10.2                           |
| Sydney - City and Inner South                 | 8.5                            | 9.7                            | 8.3                            | 10.8                           | 8.3                            | 11.7                           | 11.9                           |
| Sydney - Eastern Suburbs                      | 9.6                            | 11.0                           | 9.3                            | 12.2                           | 9.3                            | 13.1                           | 13.4                           |
| Sydney - Inner South West                     | 7.3                            | 8.4                            | 7.1                            | 9.3                            | 7.1                            | 10.1                           | 10.3                           |
| Sydney - Inner West                           | 7.7                            | 8.8                            | 7.5                            | 9.8                            | 7.5                            | 10.6                           | 10.8                           |
| Sydney - North Sydney and Hornsby             | 7.6                            | 8.6                            | 7.3                            | 9.6                            | 7.3                            | 10.4                           | 10.6                           |
| Sydney - Northern Beaches                     | 7.8                            | 8.9                            | 7.6                            | 9.9                            | 7.6                            | 10.7                           | 10.9                           |
| Sydney - Outer South West                     | 7.3                            | 8.4                            | 7.1                            | 9.3                            | 7.1                            | 10.1                           | 10.3                           |

|  |     |      |     |      |     |      |      |
|--|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|------|
| Sydney - Outer West and Blue Mountains | 7.3 | 8.3  | 7.1 | 9.3  | 7.1 | 10.0 | 10.2 |
| Sydney - Parramatta                    | 7.8 | 8.9  | 7.6 | 10.0 | 7.6 | 10.8 | 11.0 |
| Sydney - Ryde                          | 7.7 | 8.8  | 7.5 | 9.8  | 7.5 | 10.6 | 10.8 |
| Sydney - South West                    | 7.5 | 8.6  | 7.3 | 9.6  | 7.3 | 10.4 | 10.6 |
| Sydney - Sutherland                    | 7.4 | 8.4  | 7.2 | 9.4  | 7.2 | 10.1 | 10.3 |
| Capital Region                         | 7.2 | 8.2  | 7.0 | 9.2  | 7.0 | 9.9  | 10.1 |
| Central West                           | 7.6 | 8.7  | 7.4 | 9.7  | 7.4 | 10.5 | 10.7 |
| Coffs Harbour - Grafton                | 7.6 | 8.7  | 7.4 | 9.7  | 7.4 | 10.5 | 10.7 |
| Far West and Orana                     | 7.4 | 8.4  | 7.2 | 9.4  | 7.2 | 10.1 | 10.3 |
| Hunter Valley exc Newcastle            | 7.1 | 8.1  | 6.9 | 9.0  | 6.9 | 9.8  | 10.0 |
| Illawarra                              | 7.6 | 8.7  | 7.4 | 9.7  | 7.4 | 10.5 | 10.7 |
| Mid North Coast                        | 7.5 | 8.6  | 7.3 | 9.6  | 7.3 | 10.3 | 10.6 |
| Murray                                 | 7.6 | 8.6  | 7.4 | 9.6  | 7.4 | 10.4 | 10.6 |
| New England and North West             | 7.6 | 8.7  | 7.4 | 9.7  | 7.4 | 10.5 | 10.7 |
| Newcastle and Lake Macquarie           | 7.1 | 8.1  | 6.9 | 9.0  | 6.9 | 9.8  | 9.9  |
| Richmond - Tweed                       | 7.6 | 8.7  | 7.4 | 9.7  | 7.4 | 10.5 | 10.7 |
| Riverina                               | 7.6 | 8.6  | 7.4 | 9.6  | 7.4 | 10.4 | 10.6 |
| Southern Highlands and Shoalhaven      | 9.0 | 10.3 | 8.7 | 11.4 | 8.7 | 12.3 | 12.6 |
| Melbourne - Inner                      | 4.1 | 3.9  | 7.2 | 9.4  | 7.2 | 5.2  | 5.3  |
| Melbourne - Inner East                 | 3.6 | 3.4  | 6.2 | 8.2  | 6.2 | 4.5  | 4.6  |
| Melbourne - Inner South                | 3.7 | 3.5  | 6.4 | 8.4  | 6.4 | 4.7  | 4.8  |
| Melbourne - North East                 | 3.8 | 3.6  | 6.6 | 8.6  | 6.6 | 4.8  | 4.9  |
| Melbourne - North West                 | 3.7 | 3.6  | 6.5 | 8.6  | 6.5 | 4.7  | 4.8  |
| Melbourne - Outer East                 | 3.8 | 3.6  | 6.6 | 8.7  | 6.6 | 4.8  | 4.9  |
| Melbourne - South East                 | 3.6 | 3.4  | 6.3 | 8.3  | 6.3 | 4.6  | 4.7  |
| Melbourne - West                       | 3.5 | 3.4  | 6.1 | 8.1  | 6.1 | 4.4  | 4.5  |
| Mornington Peninsula                   | 3.6 | 3.5  | 6.4 | 8.3  | 6.4 | 4.6  | 4.7  |
| Ballarat                               | 4.0 | 3.8  | 6.9 | 9.1  | 6.9 | 5.0  | 5.1  |
| Bendigo                                | 3.8 | 3.7  | 6.7 | 8.8  | 6.7 | 4.9  | 5.0  |
| Geelong                                | 3.7 | 3.5  | 6.5 | 8.5  | 6.5 | 4.7  | 4.8  |
| Hume                                   | 4.3 | 4.1  | 7.4 | 9.7  | 7.4 | 5.4  | 5.5  |
| Latrobe - Gippsland                    | 4.1 | 3.9  | 7.2 | 9.4  | 7.2 | 5.2  | 5.3  |
| North West                             | 3.9 | 3.7  | 6.8 | 8.9  | 6.8 | 4.9  | 5.0  |
| Shepparton                             | 4.3 | 4.1  | 7.4 | 9.7  | 7.4 | 5.4  | 5.5  |
| Warrnambool and South West             | 3.7 | 3.5  | 6.5 | 8.5  | 6.5 | 4.7  | 4.8  |
| Brisbane - East                        | 4.1 | 5.1  | 5.1 | 6.7  | 5.1 | 8.1  | 8.2  |
| Brisbane - North                       | 4.1 | 5.2  | 5.1 | 6.7  | 5.1 | 8.1  | 8.3  |
| Brisbane - South                       | 4.2 | 5.2  | 5.2 | 6.8  | 5.2 | 8.2  | 8.4  |
| Brisbane - West                        | 4.1 | 5.2  | 5.1 | 6.7  | 5.1 | 8.2  | 8.3  |
| Brisbane Inner City                    | 4.2 | 5.3  | 5.3 | 6.9  | 5.3 | 8.4  | 8.6  |
| Ipswich                                | 4.0 | 5.0  | 5.0 | 6.5  | 5.0 | 7.9  | 8.1  |
| Logan - Beaudesert                     | 4.3 | 5.4  | 5.3 | 7.0  | 5.3 | 8.4  | 8.6  |
| Moreton Bay - North                    | 3.9 | 4.9  | 4.8 | 6.4  | 4.8 | 7.7  | 7.9  |
| Moreton Bay - South                    | 3.9 | 4.9  | 4.8 | 6.3  | 4.8 | 7.7  | 7.9  |
| Cairns                                 | 4.9 | 6.2  | 6.1 | 8.0  | 6.1 | 9.7  | 9.9  |
| Darling Downs - Maranoa                | 4.6 | 5.8  | 5.7 | 7.5  | 5.7 | 9.1  | 9.3  |
| Fitzroy                                | 4.2 | 5.3  | 5.2 | 6.9  | 5.2 | 8.3  | 8.5  |

|                                |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Gold Coast                     | 4.3 | 5.5 | 5.4 | 7.1 | 5.4 | 8.6 | 8.7 |
| Mackay                         | 4.2 | 5.3 | 5.2 | 6.9 | 5.2 | 8.3 | 8.5 |
| Queensland - Outback           | 4.7 | 5.9 | 5.8 | 7.6 | 5.8 | 9.2 | 9.4 |
| Sunshine Coast                 | 4.3 | 5.4 | 5.3 | 7.0 | 5.3 | 8.5 | 8.7 |
| Toowoomba                      | 4.6 | 5.8 | 5.7 | 7.5 | 5.7 | 9.0 | 9.2 |
| Townsville                     | 4.7 | 5.9 | 5.8 | 7.6 | 5.8 | 9.2 | 9.4 |
| Wide Bay                       | 4.6 | 5.8 | 5.7 | 7.5 | 5.7 | 9.0 | 9.2 |
| Adelaide - Central and Hills   | 3.3 | 3.1 | 3.3 | 4.3 | 3.3 | 3.7 | 3.8 |
| Adelaide - North               | 3.3 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 4.3 | 3.3 | 3.7 | 3.8 |
| Adelaide - South               | 3.4 | 3.1 | 3.4 | 4.4 | 3.4 | 3.8 | 3.9 |
| Adelaide - West                | 3.7 | 3.4 | 3.7 | 4.8 | 3.7 | 4.1 | 4.2 |
| Barossa - Yorke - Mid North    | 3.5 | 3.2 | 3.5 | 4.5 | 3.5 | 3.9 | 4.0 |
| South Australia - Outback      | 3.7 | 3.4 | 3.7 | 4.8 | 3.7 | 4.1 | 4.2 |
| South Australia - South East   | 3.1 | 2.8 | 3.1 | 4.0 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| Mandurah                       | 2.4 | 2.8 | 4.0 | 5.2 | 4.0 | 4.6 | 4.7 |
| Perth - Inner                  | 3.1 | 3.5 | 4.9 | 6.5 | 4.9 | 5.8 | 5.9 |
| Perth - North East             | 2.9 | 3.3 | 4.6 | 6.1 | 4.6 | 5.4 | 5.5 |
| Perth - North West             | 2.8 | 3.2 | 4.5 | 5.9 | 4.5 | 5.2 | 5.3 |
| Perth - South East             | 2.9 | 3.3 | 4.7 | 6.1 | 4.7 | 5.5 | 5.6 |
| Perth - South West             | 2.7 | 3.1 | 4.3 | 5.7 | 4.3 | 5.0 | 5.1 |
| Bunbury                        | 2.4 | 2.8 | 4.0 | 5.2 | 4.0 | 4.6 | 4.7 |
| Western Australia - Outback    | 2.8 | 3.3 | 4.6 | 6.0 | 4.6 | 5.4 | 5.5 |
| Western Australia - Wheat Belt | 2.6 | 3.0 | 4.2 | 5.5 | 4.2 | 4.9 | 5.0 |
| Greater Hobart                 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.3 |
| Launceston and North East      | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.9 | 1.5 | 1.7 | 1.8 |
| Tasmania - South East          | 1.6 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.4 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 2.2 |
| Tasmania - West and North West | 1.3 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 2.0 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 1.8 |
| Darwin                         | 1.4 | 1.7 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.9 |
| Northern Territory - Outback   | 1.4 | 1.7 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.9 |

## Quality Declaration - Summary

### QUALITY DECLARATION - SUMMARY

#### INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Labour Force statistics are compiled from the Labour Force Survey which is conducted each month throughout Australia as part of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) household survey program. For information on the institutional environment of the ABS, including the legislative obligations of the ABS, financing and governance arrangements, and mechanisms for scrutiny of ABS operations, please see ABS Institutional Environment.

## **RELEVANCE**

The Labour Force Survey provides monthly information about the labour market activity of Australia's resident civilian population aged 15 years and over. The Labour Force Survey is designed to primarily provide estimates of employment and unemployment for the whole of Australia and, secondarily, for each state and territory.

## **TIMELINESS**

The Labour Force Survey enumeration begins on the Sunday between the 5th and 11th of the month, except for the Christmas and New Year holiday period. In December enumerations starts between the 3rd and 9th (4 weeks after November enumeration begins). In January enumeration starts between the 7th and 13th (5 weeks after December enumeration begins).

Key estimates from the Labour Force Survey are published in two stages. The first, Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0), is released 39 days after the commencement of enumeration for the month, with the exception of estimates for December which are published 46 days after the commencement of enumeration.

The second stage includes detailed data that were not part of the first stage and are published in Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) and Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003). The second stage is released 7 days after the first stage.

## **ACCURACY**

The Labour Force Survey is based on a sample of private dwellings (approximately 26,000 houses, flats etc) and non-private dwellings, such as hotels and motels. The sample covers about 0.32% of the Australian civilian population aged 15 years or over. The Labour Force Survey is designed primarily to provide estimates of key labour force statistics for the whole of Australia and, secondarily, for each state and territory.

Two types of error are possible in an estimate based on a sample survey: non-sampling error and sampling error.

Non-sampling error arises from inaccuracies in collecting, recording and processing the data. Every effort is made to minimise reporting error by the careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient data processing procedures. Non-sampling error also arises because information cannot be obtained from all persons selected in the survey. The Labour Force Survey receives a high level of cooperation, with an average response rate for the last year being 94%.

Sampling error occurs because a sample, rather than the entire population, is surveyed. One measure of the likely difference resulting from not including all dwellings in the survey is given by the standard error. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

Standard errors of key estimates and movements since the previous month are available in Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0). The standard error of other estimates and

movements may be calculated by using the spreadsheet contained in Labour Force Survey Standard Errors, Data Cube (cat. no. 6298.0.55.001).

## **COHERENCE**

The ABS has been conducting the Labour Force Survey each month since February 1978. While seeking to provide a high degree of consistency and comparability over time by minimising changes to the survey, sound survey practice requires careful and continuing maintenance and development to maintain the integrity of the data and the efficiency of the collection.

The changes which have been made to the Labour Force Survey have included changes in sampling methods, estimation methods, concepts, data item definitions, classifications, and time series analysis techniques. In introducing these changes the ABS has generally revised previous estimates to ensure consistency and coherence with current estimates. For a full list of changes made to the Labour Force Survey see Chapter 20 in Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001).

## **INTERPRETABILITY**

The key estimates from the Labour Force Survey are available as original, seasonally adjusted and trend series. Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so other influences on the series can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove the irregular influences which may be present and therefore month-to-month movements may not be reliable indicators of underlying behaviour. To assist in interpreting the underlying behaviour, the ABS produces the trend series by smoothing the seasonally adjusted series to reduce the impact of the irregular component. For further information, see A Guide to Interpreting Time Series - Monitoring Trends (cat. no. 1349.0).

Further information on the terminology and other technical aspects associated with statistics from the Labour Force Survey can be found in the publication Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0), which contains detailed Explanatory Notes, Standard Error information and a Glossary.

## **ACCESSIBILITY**

Please see the Related Information tab for the list of products that are available from this collection.